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The local hospitals have their usual quota of chronic cases, physical degenerates, and with the exception of 1 death in the Limon Charity Hospital on the 25th instant from an attack of bilious remittent fever, and which was in nowise suspicious, no other deaths have occurred since last report.

GUATEMALA.

Livingston.—Acting Assistant Surgeon Vance reports, May 24, 1 death from whooping cough.

NICARAGUA.

Bluefields.—Acting Assistant Surgeon Goodman reports, May 26, as follows: There has been no material change in the health conditions of Bluefields and vicinity since my last weekly report. On April 18, I reported 1 case of variola. It was isolated and recovered. Another soldier contracted the disease, who is also now well, and thus has ended what I feared would be a serious prevalence of smallpox. Eighty ship laborers were vaccinated. Ninety per cent had vaccinia, showing their receptivity, and yet smallpox did not spread in a population of 3,000 negroes and natives—a remarkable fact, even for a warm country.

BRAZIL.

Report of yellow fever in Bahia.

CONSULATE OF THE UNITED STATES,
Bahia, Brazil, April 26, 1899.

SIR: I beg leave to inform you that I to-day cabled you as follows: "Secretary of State, Washington.—Yellow—Furniss;" which, in accordance with Department instructions, would mean that yellow fever is now epidemic in the city of Bahia.

Yellow fever is more or less always present in Bahia as sporadic cases, but at present the daily number of new cases and deaths has increased to such an extent that it is now considered epidemic.

The weather conditions are most favorable for its propagation. Each day has alternate showers and hot sunshine—just sufficient rain to stir up the dirt of the streets and not sufficient to wash it away.

Added to this is the fact, that there is at present a greater number of non-immunes here than has been the case for some time. This is due to the immigration here of vast numbers from the interior of the state, they having been forced to leave their homes on account of the drought. That the cases and death rate are great, is doubtless due to the impoverished condition of the emigrants. Then, too, during the past year there have a number of Europeans come out as clerks to commercial houses, and of these the Germans seem to be particularly susceptible.

At present the cases are confined to the city of Bahia and the smaller towns tributary thereto. The cases are well scattered, no part of the city being free from the disease. Besides those cases recognized as typical yellow fever, there are a number of cases with great mortality, the symptoms of which are so closely allied to those of yellow fever, in many cases lacking only the appearance of albumen in the urine, that it is impossible to give a positive diagnosis. These cases are recorded under malarial fevers though neither blood examinations nor post-mortems are made.

It is impossible to get official information as to number of cases and deaths, and I have to rely entirely upon such information as I can obtain from my professional friends, so there is a certainty of there always being as many cases as I note on the health reports, though I am inclined to believe that there are always more.

So far the fever has not affected the shipping and, as the ships are all anchored in the open bay, at least a half a mile from the quay and the bay itself is never infected, and has a 7-foot tide with a very rapid current, about the only danger lies in communication with the shore and a total disregard to instructions. I refuse to allow the crew on shore at any time, and warn the captains of the dangers and see to it that all captains sleep on board and comply with the orders of the doctor of the port, a translated copy of which orders I give each ship upon arrival. I inclose herewith a copy of the same.

The sanitary rules and regulations relative to the isolation, disinfection, etc., are very complete, but for some reason they seem not to be effectively enforced. The local papers have all had articles calling the attention of the authorities to the spread of the disease and the bad sanitary condition of the city, and the fact that little effort is being made to stop the progress of the disease.

I inclose clippings and translations of the same from the two leading papers. These clippings are of the same tenor as more lengthy articles which are appearing from day to day in the papers.

I have the honor to remain, sir, your obedient servant,

H. W. FURNISS,
United States Consul.

The honorable the ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE.

[Inclosure No. 1.]

UNITED STATES CONSULATE,
Bahia, Brazil, April 1, 1899.

To the captains of all American ships.

SIRS: I am in receipt of a communication from the doctor of the port of which the following is a translation:

1. None of the crew of sailing ships anchored in this harbor shall come on shore without having previously obtained a special license to do so from the health officer of the port, the same to be indorsed by the Guarda Moria of the custom house.

2. The boats employed by the captains to bring them on shore and take them back to their ships shall not tarry at the quay, but shall immediately return to the ship, it being best for the health of the captains and crews that this transportation take place before 9 a. m. or between 4 and 6 p. m.

3. Captains will be held responsible for and fined if ship's boats are caught in transit from the anchorage after 7 p. m.

4. The purchase of fruits from "bumboats" is prohibited, and it is thought best for the health of the crew that fruit purchased on shore by the captains should not be eaten until it has been on board for about three days.

5. In case of sickness on board, captains shall put their national flag at the foremast, and shall communicate immediately with the guard ship which will communicate with the Guarda Moria.

Such parts of the above as affect the seamen under your command you are expected to read to them, and I expect you to comply strictly with the above regulations.

Respectfully, yours,

H. W. FURNISS,
United States Consul.

[Inclosure No. 2—Translated in this Bureau from the Journal de Noticias, April 22, 1899.]

We do not wish to censure the lack of proper measures and the absolute inefficiency of the measures adopted, the result of which has been to increase the number of cases in this city. We only wish to call attention to the fact that 2 completely neglected cases exist at Baixa Quinta, in a crowded community, living in the worst possible hygienic conditions, a menace to themselves and to public health.

Now is the time to take serious and scientific measures to abate the evil, and the carrying out of these measures should be entrusted to capable persons.

[Inclosure No. 3.—From the *Diario de Bahia*, April 27, 1899.]

The yellow fever which has from time to time appeared in various parts of the city has now assumed a more important aspect, and is causing a number of deaths.

It does not appear to us that proper repressive measures are being taken. Circumstances which may lead to serious calamity are of daily occurrence. Yesterday there was a yellow fever death in the person of an Arab living on Miserecordia Hill, and the bedding and clothing of the patient were exposed in the garden of the house in which the death occurred, as testified by various persons called in as assistants.

Similar occurrences are reported from other quarters, and we, therefore, claim the attention of the proper authorities.

Sanitary report from Rio de Janeiro.

RIO DE JANEIRO, April 20, 1899.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit to you the official report for the week ended April 7:

Statistics.

There were 336 deaths from all causes, a decrease of 31, as compared with the foregoing week; 16 deaths from *accessio pernicioso*, a decrease of 11; 22 deaths from yellow fever, a decrease of 10; 5 deaths from smallpox, an increase of 1; 7 deaths from typhoid fever, an increase of 3; 1 death from diphtheria, none before; 6 deaths from beriberi, a decrease of 3, and 56 deaths from tuberculosis, an increase of 6.

Information.

As I have already repeatedly reported, the summer of this year has been extremely dry and of constant high temperature. The state of health has not been very favorable. There have occurred a large number of light, and also more serious, fever diseases. Upon the whole, however, it will not be safe to assert that the season has been entirely unfavorable.

The total number of deaths up to the present time of this year, compared with those for the corresponding period last year, does not show any important difference. They have been, according to the weekly reports, from the end of January, 283 and 342, respectively, 367 and 300, 328 and 295, 314 and 344, 388 and 299, 385 and 342, 400 and 304, 466 and 432, 453 and 411, 412 and 395, 367 and 426, 336 and 382.

Yellow fever.

In regard to yellow fever it must be stated that the character of the disease has been favorable. Indeed, there has occurred a large number of cases, of which, however, only a small part has ended fatally. For the most part, light cases are not reported, and, therefore, it is not possible to give figures for the proportion of mortality to the number of cases.

The culmination of the epidemic was reached during the period from the middle of February to the middle of March. Since that time, the disease has been decidedly declining. Last year, on the other hand, yellow fever began to increase during the middle of March. The number of deaths from yellow fever from the end of January up to the present time this year, compared with the year 1898, according to the weekly reports, has been as follows, 13 and 6, respectively, 28 and 8, 41 and 7, 50 and 8, 37 and 25, 41 and 37, 51 and 42, 58 and 44, 49 and 62, 39 and 68. 32 and 70, 22 and 71.